

Appendix

Name of Academy: St Andrews CE Primary

Name of Headteacher: Ben Arnell

Name of RE Subject Leader: Charlotte Marks

Our Academy Vision

“We want St Andrew’s to be a beacon of our community that inspires adults and children alike with outstanding learning and teaching. Where children develop a thirst and love of learning that will be lifelong. We want St Andrew’s to be a school ‘Where young minds grow and young hearts learn to care’ through a thoughtful and wide-ranging development of pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development within the Christian faith. We want our values to be our children’s virtues.”

RE has an important contribution to make towards this by providing a caring environment where pupils feel secure and able to express their own views and beliefs. They are encouraged to value their own opinions and beliefs, whilst developing respect and sensitivity for the views of others.

Pupils are encouraged to understand the importance of the role that each individual has to play in the life of the academy and of the wider community. Links are made with a variety of faith and worldview groups to help with this.

Local context

St. Andrew’s Academy is a medium primary academy, serving children in the age range of 2-11.

- We welcome the diversity of our families and we intend to be sensitive to the home background of each pupil.
- We have close links with St. Andrew’s Church and the vicar and members of the congregation support RE and Collective Worship through leading weekly worship, holding special services at church, and some of their congregation take part in weekly ‘philosophy’ sessions with our older children.
- We also have close links with the local community. This includes welcoming visitors to the academy from a variety of religious and non - religious backgrounds to support RE lessons and talk to the pupils such as the local Salvation Army and Baptist churches.
- Pupils also experience visits to diverse places of worship. We are able to visit the Bedford Multi Faith centre where faith leaders and other members of the community are willing to meet with pupils and be involved in RE. We aim to use this valuable resource for all classes. Pupils will have the opportunity to make the following visits during their time here.

Year R: St. Andrew’s Church

Year 1: St. Andrew’s Church, Gurdwara (Regent Street)

Year 2: St. Andrew’s Church, Gurdwara (Regent Street)

Year 3: Bedford Multi Faith Centre

Year 4: Bedford Multi Faith Centre

Year 5: Northampton Hebrew Congregation, Wellingborough Mosque

Year 6: Northampton Hebrew Congregation, Wellingborough Mosque

The RE Subject Leader supports the organisation of these educational visits (in addition to the Educational Visits Coordinator). Pupils also have the opportunity to experience the celebration of

different cultures and festivals other than their own, within RE and other areas of the curriculum and Collective Worship.

Time Allocation

At St. Andrew's Academy children are taught RE weekly for an hour.

Teaching and Learning Styles

We ensure that a variety of teaching and learning styles are adopted by teachers in RE to allow access by all pupils. The variety enables pupils to encounter their preferred learning style as well as to develop a broad repertoire. The teaching and learning styles used promote a range of skills such as thinking skills, reasoning, enquiry and research.

Examples of active learning strategies and activities, which we use, are:

- Dramatic conventions;
- Group work;
- Individual reflection;
- Use of music and art;
- Artefact handling;
- Multi - sensory approaches;
- Visits and visitors;
- Use of ICT and Multi Media;
- Use of photos, posters, DVDs.

Resources

A wide range of resources are in place for each theme within RE. These are all individually boxed according to religion and a list of contents for each resource box is displayed on the front of each box. A master copy is given to each teacher to put into their RE files. Resources are stored in our PPA room, and should be returned after use.

The Academy has invested in new books, religious artefacts and DVDs, and staff may need to familiarise themselves with the new materials. We maintain an RE story shelf in the library, which offers many stories from different traditions. Teachers may choose to use these in RE. Staff are invited to suggest gaps in the resources for future spending.